



*Examination*  
12/17/03 \$  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Joseph R. Hedrick, et al.

Attorney Docket No.: IGT1P060/P-568

Application No.: 09/921,489

Examiner: Kim T. Nguyen

Filed: August 3, 2001

Group: 3713

Title: **PLAYER TRACKING COMMUNICATION  
MECHANISMS IN A GAMING MACHINE**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail on December 10, 2003 in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Tomika Thomas*  
Tomika Thomas

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE  
(37 CFR §§ 1.56 AND 1.97(c))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, a copy of which is attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit this reference in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make this citation of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that this reference indeed constitutes prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, or after three months of the filing date of this application, whichever event occurred last, but it is believed before the mailing date of either: (i) a final action under §1.113 or (ii) a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is

- ☐ a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); or
- ☒ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

The undersigned hereby states:

☐ that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application no more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

☒ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If fees are due, enclosed is our Check No. 8282 for \$180.00 in payment of the Information Disclosure Statement Fee. If it is determined that any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. IGT1P060).

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>Form 1449 (Modified)</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b>  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	<b>Atty Docket No.</b> IGT1P060/P-568  <b>Applicant:</b> Joseph R. Hedrick, <i>et al.</i>  <b>Filing Date</b> August 3, 2001	<b>Application No.:</b> 09/921,489      <b>Group</b> 3713
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## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	A1	6,582,310	12/24/2003	Walker, <i>et al.</i>	463	42	12/17/1999
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### **Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application**

[illegible]

## Other Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
	C1	Rick Rowe <i>et al.</i> , Cashless Transaction Clearinghouse, November 16, 2001, U.S. Patent Appln. 09/993,163, (IGT1P035X1/P-311CIP)
	C2	Steven G. LeMay <i>et al.</i> , Game Development Architecture that decouples the Game Logic from the Graphics Logic, January 1, 2002, U.S. Patent Appln. 10/040,239, (IGT1P078/P-671)
	C3	Binh T. Nguyen <i>et al.</i> , Secured Virtual Network in a Gaming Environment, April 3, 2002, U.S. Patent Appln. 10/116,424, (IGT1P034X1/P-277CIP)
	C4	Joseph R. Hedrick <i>et al.</i> , Player Tracking Communication Mechanisms in a Gaming Machine, September 16, 2002. U.S. Patent Appln. 10/246,373, (IGT1P060X1/P568CIP)
	C5	William R. Brosnan <i>et al.</i> , Identifying Message Senders, November 7, 2002, U.S. Patent Appln. 10/291,926, (IGT1P058/P-500)
	C6	Rex Y. Lam, <i>et al.</i> , Usb Software Architecture In A Gaming Machine, June 11, 2003, U.S. Patent Appln. 10/460,822, (IGT1P099/P-845)
	C7	Robert Silva <i>et al.</i> , Wireless Input/Output and Peripheral Devices on a Gaming Machine, September 11, 2003, U.S. Patent Appln. 10/661,404, (IGT1P060X2/P-568CIP2)
Examiner		Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.